

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 MCE-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /086 W
-----124499 310619Z /12

R 310522Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8684
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EFIN, PFOR, IMF, IBRD, TU
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL EQUIVOCATES ON SUBJECT OF US
"ECONOMIC EMBARGO"

REF: (A) ANKARA 6045, (B) ANKARA 6403

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. AT PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 26, IN WHICH HE ANSWERED WRITTEN
QUESTIONS, PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL DID NOT DENY ALLEGATION OF
US "ECONOMIC EMBARGO" OF TURKEY AND, IN FACT, IMPLIED THAT
THERE MIGHT BE SOME TRUTH TO IT. ACCORDING TO TERCUMAN,
AUGUST 27, FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE:

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QUESTION: PARALLEL TO THE ARMS EMBARGO, IT IS SAID THAT
THE UNITED STATES IS ALSO IMPLEMENTING AN ECONOMIC
EMBARGO OF TURKEY. WILL YOU PLEASE SHED SOME LIGHT ON
THIS MATTER?

ANSWER: I DO NOT FIND IT CORRECT TO MAKE AN ACCUSATION
IN ADVANCE OF THE SORT THAT AMERICA IS APPLYING AN

ECONOMIC EMBARGO TO TURKEY PARALLEL WITH THE ARMS EMBARGO. BUT, FOR THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THIS SUBJECT NOT TO GAIN TRUTH, THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONTINUED EXTENSION OF FACILITIES, MADE AVAILABLE HERETOFORE, FOR OVERCOMING THE ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WHICH WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED. I'LL SAY ONLY THAT THERE IS SOME TROUBLE.

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2. COMMENT. PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL'S REMARK, WHILE OUTWARDLY OBJECTIVE, DOES NOTHING TO ALLAY PUBLIC CONFUSION. IT LEAVES OPEN AND UNLIMITED THE EXACT NATURE OF THE ALLEGED "EMBARGO"; CONFUSES "USG" AND "US", BLURRING DISTINCTION BETWEEN US GOVERNMENT POLICY AND PRIVATE AMERICAN BUSINESS JUDGEMENTS; AND IGNORES FACT THAT SAME CAUTION EXERCISED BY AMERICAN BANKERS IN PRESENT TURKISH ECONOMIC CRISIS IS FOLLOWED BY GERMAN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BANKERS. DEMIREL'S TREATMENT OF "EMBARGO" THEME SUGGESTS HIS SENSE OF VULNERABILITY TO CHARGE THAT HIS OWN 1975-77 COALITION GOVERNMENT WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR TURKEY'S PRESENT ECONOMIC PLIGHT. IT ALSO SUGGESTS HIS RECOGNITION OF USEFULNESS OF THIS THEME AS MEANS FOR PRESSURING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USG TO COME T TURKEY'S ASSISTANCE.

3. THE REMARK DID NOT GET MUCH COMMENT IN PRESS COVERAGE OF THE INTERVIEW.
SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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